of certain ancillary safety devices for handing the camera and directed the hospital authorities not to take any action for the installation of the camera and directed the hospital authorities not take any action for the installation of the camera and its use; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Medical services available in rural areas

1455. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing gap between the medical services available in the urban and rural areas in the country stating the doctor-patient ratio and how does it compare with the medical services made available during the year 1984 and 1985 in these areas;

(b) what is the percentage of hospital beds available in the rural areas out of the total number of hospital beds available in the country, and, with the increase in population, what is the percentage of rospital beds added in the rural areas as compared to the urban areas during the Sixth Five Yead Plan period; and

(c) what is the existing shortage of doctors in the Primary Health Centres in the rural areas stating the reasons therefor and the steps contemplated by Government to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per 1981 census population the doctor population ratio is 1:2305. Separate doctor population ratio for rural and urban areas is not maintained.

The statements indicating the number of hospitals and beds available during 1984 and 1985 in rural and urban areas of the country are placed at Annexures (See Appendix CXL, Annexure No. 61)

(b) The percentage of hospital beds available in rural areas out of the total number of hospital beds in the country at present is 12.6 per cent.

During the 6th Plan period the number of beds added in rural and urban areas are as under:—

	As on 1-1-81	*As on* 1-1-86	% *Increase*
Rural	62389	67300	7·9
Urban	404288	468435	15 9

(c) Out of 22993 sanctioned posts of doctors at Primary Health Centres only 2512 posts (10.1 per cent) are vacant which is not high as certain posts always remain vacant at a particular time due to transfers, postings, promotions, retirement etc. However, to attract doctors to work in rural areas the 8th Finance Cimmission on the suggestion of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has provided special funds to the States for providing the following incentives to doctors serving in rural areas:-

(i) A rural allowance equal to 25 per cent of the basic pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 250/- per month for the doctors working in the Primary Health Centres; and

(ii) House rent allowance at the rate of Rs. 150/- per month where the doctors are not provided residential accommodation.

In addition, the Finance Commission has made Special provision of Rs. 53.52 crores for construction of residential quarters for the doctors. The hilly areas have been provided 30 per cent 'Mark up' in the cost of construction.